

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MEXICO 01755 271711Z

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SUBJECT: QUEEN ELIZABETH GETS THE MEXICAN TREATMENT

SUMMARY: QUEEN ELIZABETH II ARRIVED IN MEXICO CITY FEBRUARY 24 AND WAS GIVEN A WARM, COLORFUL RECEPTION AS WELL AS PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA'S INEVITABLE LECTURE ON CERDS AND THE CHANGING WORLD ECONOMIC ORDER. SUBSTANTIVE RESULTS WERE MINIMAL. END SUMMARY

1. AFTER OVERNIGHTING INFORMALLY AT COZUMEL, ELIZABETH II ARRIVED IN MEXICO CITY TO A COLORFUL, CAREFULLY ORCHESTRATED, BUT ESSENTIALLY WARM MEXICAN WELCOME. LOCAL POMP AND COLOR, CHARROS AND THINAS POBLANAS, GREETED HER AT EVERY STOP DURING AN INTENSIVE TWO DAYS OF TOURING. LATE LAST NIGHT, SHE AND HER WARY ENTOURAGE BOARDED A VIP TRAIN FOR GUANAJUATO AND SEVERAL MORE DAYS OF LOCAL SIGHTSEEING.

2. AS EXPECTED, SUBSTANCE WAS KEPT TO A MINIMUM. FONSEC RABASA AND BRITISH MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH AFFAIRS DAVID ENNALS SIGNED TWO COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS, ONE ON CULTURAL EXCHANGE AND THE OTHER IN THE SCIENCE/TECHNOLOGY FIELD. (ENNALS AFTERWARD PARRIED PRESS QUESTIONS ON HMG-GUATEMALAN NEGOTIATIONS OVER BELIZE BY STATING THAT THEY HAD BARELY BEGUN, THAT A FINAL SOLUTION WOULD HAVE TO BE "CONVINCING"

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PAGE 02 MEXICO 01755 271711Z

TO THE BELICEANS, AND THAT MEXICO WAS BEING CONSULTED IN THE

PROCESS; RABASA ECHOED AGREEMENT.)

3. HOWEVER, AT A SPLENDID PALACE RECEPTION MONDAY NIGHT, THE QUEEN WAS TREATED TO A POINTEDLY SUBSTANTIVE RECITATION OF ARGUMENTS AGAINST "DEPENDENCY" AND IN FAVOR OF MEXICO'S CHARTER OF ECONOMIC RIGHTS AND DUTIES (CERDS) BY PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA. SINCE IT CAPSULIZED PARTICULARLY WELL CURRENT GOM THINKING ON THESE THEMES, ECHEVERRIA'S TOAST TO THE QUEEN, AND HER NONCOMMITTAL RESPONSE, ARE SUMMARIZED IN THE FOLLOWING PARAGRAPHS.

4. WE ARE CONFRONTED, THE PRESIDENT BEGAN, WITH EVIDENCE THAT THE PRESENT INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC STRUCTURE IS INCAPABLE OF DEALING EFFECTIVELY WITH CONTEMPORARY PROBLEMS. "ALL SIGNS INDICATE A SOCIAL ORGANIZATION IN BANKRUPTCY. SOLUTIONS IMPOSED BY FORCE HAVE CEASED TO OPERATE, AND EQUITY IS PROVING TO BE THE PRIMARY VALUE FOR ASSURING PEACE AND COLLECTIVE WELL-BEING."

5. "THE SAME FACTORS WHICH THREATEN OUR DESTINY CONSTITUTE A POWERFUL INCENTIVE TO MODERNIZE AND RATIONALIZE THE PRESENT SYSTEMS. IN SPITE OF THE FIERCE OPPOSITION OF SOME POWER GROUPS, WE ARE SLOWLY BUT SURELY ENTERING ON THE ROAD TO OBJECTIVE ANALYSIS AND NECESSARY CONCILIATION."

6. THE EXPERIENCE OF THE PAST IS VITAL TO THIS PROCESS, ECHEVERRIA CONTINUED. GREAT BRITAIN UNDERSTANDS THE PROCESS OF HISTORIC CHANGE, AND IN ORDER TO PROGRESS WHILE PRESERVING ITS TRADITIONS, IT HAS SUPPORTED INNOVATION, DESPITE UNCERTAINTY. OUT OF A VIOLENT REVOLUTIONARY PAST, MEXICO TOO "HAS LEARNED -- UP TO NOW -- TO RECONCILE THE IMPERATIVES OF RAPID DEVELOPMENT WITH THE NEED TO REINFORCE THE MOST PROFOUND ELEMENTS OF ITS PERSONALITY."

7. THE MOST RECENT CONTACTS BETWEEN MEXICO AND GREAT BRITAIN HAVE OPENED A NEW STAGE IN OUR FRIENDLY RELATIONS, THE PRESIDENT CONTINUED, AND UNDERScoreD THE BROAD AREAS OF MUTUAL INTEREST "--BUT NOT TO THE FULL EXTENT OF OUR NEEDS AND THE INTERESTS OF OUR RESPECTIVE PEOPLES."

8. "MEXICO IS AWARE OF THE NEGATIVE EFFECTS OF TOO CLOSE AN ASSOCIATION WITH A SINGLE COUNTRY OR GROUP OF COUNTRIES. POLITICAL UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 MEXICO 01755 271711Z

DEPENDENCY IN OUR TIMES IS A DIRECT RESULT OF ECONOMIC DEPENDENCY. THAT IS WHY COLLABORATION AMONG STATES, TO BE TRULY EFFECTIVE, MUST HAVE A GLOBAL CHARACTER. WE ARE SINCERE SUPPORTERS OF DETENTE, BUT WE REJECT THE PRESSURES OF THOSE WHO WOULD USE IT AS A PRETEXT FOR ORGANIZING A NEW DIVISION OF THE WORLD AND NEW FORMS OF COLONIAL SERVITUDE."

9. FOR THIS REASON, ECHEVERRIA CONCLUDED, THE GOM HAS STRONGLY

PROMOTED CERDS, "WHICH CONSTITUTES A POINT OF DEPARTURE AND THE BEGINNINGS OF AN ACCORD FOR CREATION OF A NEW INTERNATIONAL ORDER. WE ARE CONVINCED WHAT -- BEYOND CIRCUMSTANCIAL STRATEGIES AND THE CHANGING DECISIONS OF PARLIAMENTARY MAJORITIES -- IT CAN BE ADOPTED BY THE COUNTRIES WHICH DID NOT VOTE IN FAVOR OF IT, SO THAT IT CAN HAVE FULL UNIVERSAL APPLICATION AND VALIDITY."

10. THE QUEEN'S RESPONSE WAS POLITE AND FLATTERING: AS YOU HAVE OFTEN SAID, MR. PRESIDENT, WE LIVE IN AN INTERDEPENDENT WORLD... MEXICAN AND BRITISH ENGINEERS, DESIGNERS, AND TECHNICIANS HAVE WORKED TOGETHER CLOSELY ON MANY PROJECTS, ABOVE ALL IN THE EXPANSION OF MEXICO'S STEEL INDUSTRY AND THE CONSTRUCTION OF AZTEC-TYPE HIGH SPEED PATROL BOATS. WE LOOK FOWARD WITH EXCITEMENT TO SEEING THE FIRST OF THESE BOATS IN VERACRUZ.

11. "BUT NEITHER ECONOMIC POWER NOR MILITARY FORCE CAN DO AS MUCH AS THE HUMAN HEART," THE QUEEN SIGHED. "YOUR OWN CONCERN FOR THE WEAK AND THE DISPOSSESSED ENJOYS OUR UNCONDITIONAL SUPPORT."

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